

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shigeo MURASE

Appln. No.:

Confirmation No.

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 31, 2001

Examiner:

For: AUTOMATED BILLING TYPE INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

3(amended). An automated billing type information providing system according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein said monitors are installed in individual homes, and said server for a plurality of homes is provided inside the homes.

4(amended). An automated billing type information providing system according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein a plurality of said monitors are installed in a [hospital] hospital ward, and said server is also installed in the ward.

5(amended). An automated billing type information providing system according to [any one of] claim 1, said billing unit is installed together with said monitor on the user's side, and the use charges are paid by using a prepaid card.

6(amended). An automated billing type information providing system according to [any one of] claim 1, wherein said billing unit is constructed so that the result of the integration are

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
New U.S. Appln.

transmitted to said provider through the telecommunication line, and the user is billed for the use charges based on the results of the integration transmitted to said provider.

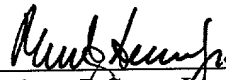
8(amended). An automated billing type information providing system according to [any one of] claim 1, wherein said billing unit is installed together with said monitor on the user's side, and the use charges are paid [in-cash] in cash.

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REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are made in order to remove multiple dependencies and avoid the Government surcharge. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert I. Seas, Jr.
Registration No. 21,092

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: January 31, 2001